

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 PARIS 10361 080926Z

ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1553

S E C R E T PARIS 10361

NODIS

FOR HABIB FROM CHARGE

DELIVER AT OPENING BUSINESS APRIL 8

SUGGEST DEPT PASS TO BRUSSELS AND KINSHASA

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, ZA. FR

SUBJECT: SHABA INVASION: BELGIAN, FRENCH AND US SUPPORT

REF: STATE 78876

1. I CALLED ON JOURNIAC THIS MORNING (APRIL 8) AND TOLD HIM ABOUT MOBUTU'S CONCERN OVER REPORTS HE HAD RECEIVED CONTENDING THAT THE US HAS CONSULTED WITH THE FRENCH AND THE BELGIANS ABOUT PRESSING MOBUTU TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE KATANGANS. WITH APPARENT SINCERITY, JOURNIAC SAID THAT IN CONVERSATION WITH THE ZAIRIAN AMBASSADOR IN PARIS, HE HAD ACCURATELY REPORTED THE AMERICAN POSITION AS OUTLINED BY YOU TO JOURNIAC LAST WEEK, AND THAT THE AMBASSADOR SEEMED TO UNDERSTAND THE CONGRESSIONAL AND PUBLIC OPINION RESTRAINTS UNDER WHICH THE US MUST OPERATE. JOURNIAC THOUGHT THAT MOBUTU'S GENUINE INABILITY TO COMPREHEND THAT THE PRESIDENT OF THE WORLD'S MOST POWERFUL COUNTRY COULD NOT UNILATERALLY ACT EXPLAINED HIS SUSCEPTIBILITY TO SUCH REPORTS. HE SUGGESTED THAT PROMPT FULFILLMENT OF
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THE SUPPORT PACKAGE YOU DISCUSSED LAST WEEK, PARTICULARLY RATIONS AND C-130 TRANSPORT, WOULD BE THE BEST WAY TO ALLAY MOBUTU'S CONCERNS.

2. JOURNIAC CONFIRMED THAT MOROCCO INTENDS TO PROVIDE TWO BATAILLIONS OF 800 MEN EACH. HE WAS NOT SURE WHAT SADAT WOULD DO AFTER RECEIVING

THE REPORT OF THE EGYPTIAN MILITARY TEAM NOW IN
ZAIRE. FINALLY, JOURNIAC NOTED THAT GEN. SINGA
WAS "ALONE" IN EFFORTS TO RALLY FAZ FORCES IN SHABA,
HENCE THE DECISION TO PROVIDE FRENCH OFFICERS FOR
HIS STAFF.
GAMMON

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, INTERVENTION, CAT-A, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION
Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 08-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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